

# Register to Vote

[www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov)

Choose one of these easy options:

## Online

Go to [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) to register online up to 30 days before an election. It's fast, easy and secure. All you need is a Washington State ID or driver's license.

## By Mail

Forms are available to download and print on the Internet at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) or at your county elections department, public libraries, schools, and other government offices. Mail your form at least 30 days before an election.

## In Person

If you are a new voter in Washington State, you may register in person up to 15 days before an election at your county elections department. Contact information for your county elections department is located in the back of this pamphlet.



## Say *what?*

### Be smart. [Know your election terms.]

#### Primary

A process by which a pool of candidates for public office is reduced to the top contenders. In Washington State, the statewide Primary occurs on the third Tuesday of August.

#### Top 2 Primary

A type of Primary in which the two candidates who receive the most votes in a race advance to the General Election, regardless of the candidates' stated party preferences. This primary system has been used in nonpartisan races by local governments in Washington State, but August 19, 2008 was the state's first time using the Top 2 Primary in partisan races.

#### Candidate

Any voter registered in Washington State may run as a candidate for public office. Each candidate for partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers.

#### Party preference

A candidate's stated preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

#### Nominee

A candidate who has been chosen to represent a party. Nominees will not be differentiated from other candidates on the ballot.

#### Endorsement

A public declaration of support for a candidate.

#### Partisan office

A public office for which a candidate may state a preference for a political party and have that preference listed on the ballot.

#### General Election

The General Election determines which remaining candidates will be voted into office. In the United States, Election Day is the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The next General Election will be **November 4, 2008.**